

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
IOWA, Southwest				

(IA-Z043) MONONA, (IA-Z055) HARRISON, (IA-Z056) SHELBY, (IA-Z069) POTTAWATTAMIE, (IA-Z079) MILLS, (IA-Z080) MONTGOMERY, (IA-Z090) FREMONT

12/14/08 18:00 CST	0	Cold/Wind Chill
12/15/08 11:00 CST	0	

An Arctic cold front pushed across eastern Nebraska and southwest Iowa during the early morning hours of December 14th. Temperatures fell 50 to 60 degrees within 24 hours after the front passed through...from 40s and 50s during the early morning hours of the 14th to around zero by midnight on the 15th. The cold air was ushered in on northwest winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts of 40 mph. The strong winds dropped wind chill values down to 20 below to 25 below zero. Snow showers also accompanied the cold air...and visibilities were occasionally lowered to less than 1 mile in snow and blowing snow in west central Iowa.

(IA-Z055) HARRISON, (IA-Z069) POTTAWATTAMIE, (IA-Z079) MILLS, (IA-Z080) MONTGOMERY

12/18/08 18:00 CST	0	Winter Storm
12/19/08 04:15 CST	0	

(IA-Z090) FREMONT, (IA-Z091) PAGE

12/18/08 18:00 CST	0	Ice Storm
12/19/08 04:15 CST	0	

A fast moving upper level system moved from the southwestern United States across the plains tapping gulf moisture as it moved near eastern Nebraska and southwest Iowa. With Arctic air in place across the area...the moisture and forcing from the system produced freezing rain and sleet over southeast and east central Nebraska and southwest Iowa and heavy snow over northeast Nebraska and west central Iowa. Freezing rain accumulations of 1/4 to 1/3 inch were common from far southeast Nebraska into far southwest Iowa, with 1/2 to 3/4 inch sleet mixed with freezing rain accumulations common just north of there including the Lincoln and Omaha/Council Bluffs areas. Farther north and northwest the precipitation was mostly snow...although some sleet also fell.

(IA-Z043) MONONA, (IA-Z055) HARRISON, (IA-Z069) POTTAWATTAMIE

12/20/08 20:00 CST	0	Cold/Wind Chill
12/21/08 18:00 CST	0	

An upper level disturbance tracking across the northern plains brought a period of snow to eastern Nebraska and western Iowa followed by an Arctic cold front which brought plunging temperatures and gusty winds. New snowfall was only an inch or two, but it was on top of 2 to 5 inches of snow that fell a few days prior. As northwest winds picked up to 20 to 35 mph with higher gusts during the morning of 12/20, areas of blowing and drifting snow developed. Visibilities frequently fell to a mile or two in west central Iowa. However, the main story from this event for this area was the dangerously cold wind chill values that were observed from the evening of 12/20 into and through much of 12/21.

NEBRASKA, East

(NE-Z011) KNOX, (NE-Z012) CEDAR, (NE-Z015) THURSTON, (NE-Z016) ANTELOPE, (NE-Z017) PIERCE, (NE-Z018) WAYNE, (NE-Z030) BOONE, (NE-Z031) MADISON, (NE-Z032) STANTON, (NE-Z033) CUMING, (NE-Z034) BURT, (NE-Z042) PLATTE, (NE-Z043) COLFAX, (NE-Z044) DODGE, (NE-Z045) WASHINGTON, (NE-Z050) BUTLER, (NE-Z051) SAUNDERS, (NE-Z052) DOUGLAS, (NE-Z053) SARPY, (NE-Z065) SEWARD, (NE-Z066) LANCASTER, (NE-Z067) CASS, (NE-Z068) OTOE, (NE-Z078) SALINE, (NE-Z088) JEFFERSON, (NE-Z089) GAGE, (NE-Z090) JOHNSON, (NE-Z091) NEMAHA, (NE-Z092) PAWNEE

12/14/08 09:00 CST	0	Cold/Wind Chill
12/15/08 13:00 CST	0	

(NE-Z011) KNOX, (NE-Z012) CEDAR, (NE-Z016) ANTELOPE, (NE-Z017) PIERCE, (NE-Z018) WAYNE, (NE-Z030) BOONE, (NE-Z031) MADISON, (NE-Z032) STANTON

12/15/08 02:00 CST	0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
12/15/08 13:00 CST	0	

An Arctic cold front pushed across eastern Nebraska and southwest Iowa during the early morning hours of December 14th. Temperatures fell 50 to 60 degrees within 24 hours after the front passed through...from 40s and 50s during the early morning hours of the 14th to single digits below zero north to single digits above zero south by midnight on the 15th. The cold air was ushered in on northwest winds of 25 to 35 mph with gusts of 40 to 50 mph, with the strongest winds generally over northeast Nebraska. The strong winds dropped wind chill values down to 20 below to 30 below or a bit colder, again with the lower numbers generally confined to

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northeast Nebraska and west central Iowa. Snow showers also accompanied the cold air...and visibilities were occasionally lowered to less than 1 mile in snow and blowing snow in northeast Nebraska and west central Iowa.

(NE-Z012) CEDAR, (NE-Z015) THURSTON, (NE-Z016) ANTELOPE, (NE-Z017) PIERCE, (NE-Z018) WAYNE, (NE-Z032) STANTON, (NE-Z034) BURT, (NE-Z042) PLATTE, (NE-Z044) DODGE, (NE-Z045) WASHINGTON, (NE-Z051) SAUNDERS, (NE-Z052) DOUGLAS, (NE-Z053) SARPY, (NE-Z066) LANCASTER, (NE-Z067) CASS, (NE-Z068) OTOE

12/18/08 17:30 CST	0	Winter Storm
12/19/08 05:00 CST	0	

(NE-Z065) SEWARD, (NE-Z078) SALINE, (NE-Z088) JEFFERSON, (NE-Z089) GAGE, (NE-Z090) JOHNSON, (NE-Z091) NEMAHA, (NE-Z092) PAWNEE, (NE-Z093) RICHARDSON

12/18/08 19:00 CST	0	Ice Storm
12/19/08 04:00 CST	0	

A fast moving upper level system moved from the southwestern United States across the plains tapping gulf moisture as it moved near eastern Nebraska and southwest Iowa. With Arctic air in place across the area...the moisture and forcing from the system produced freezing rain and sleet over southeast and east central Nebraska and southwest Iowa and heavy snow over northeast Nebraska and west central Iowa. Freezing rain accumulations of 1/4 to 1/3 inch were common from far southeast Nebraska into far southwest Iowa, with 1/2 to 3/4 inch sleet mixed with freezing rain accumulations common just north of there including the Lincoln and Omaha areas. Farther north and northwest the precipitation was mostly snow...although some sleet also fell...with 6 to 11 inches of snow reported along and northeast of a Dodge to Norfolk to Neligh line. Some of the heavier snow totals included around 11 inches at Walthill and near Battle Creek and around 10 inches near Norfolk and Wayne.

(NE-Z011) KNOX, (NE-Z012) CEDAR, (NE-Z015) THURSTON, (NE-Z017) PIERCE, (NE-Z018) WAYNE, (NE-Z031) MADISON, (NE-Z032) STANTON

12/20/08 06:30 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/20/08 17:00 CST	0	

(NE-Z011) KNOX, (NE-Z012) CEDAR, (NE-Z015) THURSTON, (NE-Z016) ANTELOPE, (NE-Z017) PIERCE, (NE-Z018) WAYNE, (NE-Z030) BOONE, (NE-Z031) MADISON, (NE-Z032) STANTON, (NE-Z033) CUMING, (NE-Z034) BURT, (NE-Z042) PLATTE, (NE-Z043) COLFAX, (NE-Z044) DODGE, (NE-Z045) WASHINGTON, (NE-Z050) BUTLER, (NE-Z051) SAUNDERS, (NE-Z052) DOUGLAS, (NE-Z053) SARPY, (NE-Z065) SEWARD, (NE-Z066) LANCASTER, (NE-Z067) CASS, (NE-Z068) OTOE, (NE-Z078) SALINE, (NE-Z090) JOHNSON, (NE-Z091) NEMAHA, (NE-Z092) PAWNEE, (NE-Z093) RICHARDSON

12/20/08 12:00 CST	0	Cold/Wind Chill
12/21/08 18:00 CST	0	

(NE-Z012) CEDAR, (NE-Z018) WAYNE

12/21/08 08:00 CST	0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
12/21/08 12:00 CST	0	

An upper level disturbance tracking across the northern plains brought a period of snow to eastern Nebraska and western Iowa followed by an Arctic cold front which brought plunging temperatures and gusty winds. New snowfall was only an inch or two, but across northeast Nebraska it was on top of 5 to 10 inches of snow that fell a few days prior. As northwest winds picked up to 20 to 35 mph with higher gusts during the morning of 12/20, areas of blowing and drifting snow developed. Visibilities in northeast Nebraska frequently fell to a mile or less. However, the main story from this event for this area was the dangerously cold wind chill values that were observed from the afternoon of 12/20 into and through much of 12/21.